

COMMUNITY TO SALUTE RETURNED VETERANS AT BIG RECEPTION TONIGHT

Timed to coincide with the return from Japanese captivity of Captain Louis Zamperini, all World War II veterans home from the battlefields will be felicitated this evening in a big reception and dance sponsored by the city of Torrance and staged through the cooperation of veterans organizations.

Veterans include all men and women members of service forces, Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Corps, Marines, Airways Communications, Merchant Marine, and Seabees. Full uniform, plus service ribbons and decorations, is requested so that the home folks may see their men in military array.

The affair will start at 8 p.m. in the Civic Auditorium when Captain Zamperini and other returned heroes will be introduced and officially welcomed home.

Nearly 50 Torrance men who have been awarded the Order of the Purple Heart have returned, some discharged and some on furlough. An effort is being made to have all of them appear at the auditorium at least for a short time, according to C. Earl Conner, commander of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars post, chairman of the committee appointed by Mayor W. H. Tolson to handle the affair.

Other members of the committee are James Brodie, commander of the American Legion post No. 170, Capt. R. L. Lewellen and Miss Lute Fraser.

The public reception is open to all, and sufficient time will be given to introduce the various returned veterans before a dance which will round out the evening.

A "big name" band is being brought to Torrance for the dance and to play for the entertainment program preceding the dance.

The affair originally was planned as a Zamperini party, but both Louis and members of his family declared that they deserved no greater share of the spotlight than any other returned veteran. They insisted that all veterans be invited and their suggestion was readily approved.

Commander Conner voiced an earnest appeal on behalf of the City of Torrance and the people for all returned veterans to appear at the auditorium.

A register will be provided, Conner said, and the people want a chance to greet each of our service men.

200 Acre Tract Near Airport Changes Hands

Purchase of 200 acres of land in South Torrance adjacent to the proposed Torrance municipal airport at the Lomita Flight Strip was announced yesterday by Harry J. Early of the Early Investment Company of Los Angeles. The property, now undeveloped, lies west of the Union Oil Company tank farm and the Joshua Hendy Iron Works. It has a frontage of 4200 feet on Lomita Blvd., and was acquired from the Standard Oil Company of California.

Early advised the Torrance Herald and Lomita News that he planned to dispose of 70 acres lying North of the Boulevard, but that he would hold the 130 acres south of Lomita boulevard for possible development as an air-freight terminal with bulk warehouse and loading facilities for shipping by air from the proposed Torrance municipal airport. He emphasized the need in the harbor district for a fully developed commercial airport and stated that he would soon contact Torrance city officials concerning the development of the property.

City Hall Will Close Saturdays 40-Hour Week

Torrance City Hall will go on a definite 40 hour week starting at once, and all city offices will be closed on Saturdays. This the City Council decided Tuesday night.

Excepted will be emergency service departments, such as police and fire departments and others when needed.



FIRST PICTURES OF ZAMPERINI HOMECOMING . . . Captain Louis Zamperini, AAF bombardier and one of the top five all-time long distance runners, who survived an airplane crash, 47 days on a raft and many months of cruel Japanese imprisonment, is home as these exclusive Torrance Herald photographs graphically show (Upper left) are Anthony Zamperini, father of the famous Olympic athlete; Mrs. Sylvia Zamperini Flammer, sister; Mrs. Anthony Zamperini, his mother, and Miss Virginia Zamperini, sister, as they spotted the B-25 plane which was bringing their son and brother from Letterman general hospital in San Francisco. (Upper right) For the first time in three heart-breaking years, Captain Zamperini embraces his mother just as he emerged

from the plane. His father's arms are shown around both the flyer and his mother, as Virginia, left, and Sylvia, center, and a group of AAF pilots look on. (Lower left) Together again, anxiety vanished, are members of the happy Zamperini family, left to right, Chief Specialist Pete Zamperini, who flew back from San Francisco with his brother; Virginia, Sylvia, Mr. Zamperini, Captain Louis, and Mrs. Zamperini. (Lower right) Home again, and into that easy chair, the only one in the world, Mr. and Mrs. Zamperini cling to their son as he relaxes a few minutes after entering his home at about 2 p. m. Saturday. (Torrance Herald photos).

'Torrance Plans Ahead' Dinner On Oct. 25 Attracting Many Groups

Industry, the city of Torrance and the County of Los Angeles will summarize their ideas on "Torrance Plans Ahead" at the big community dinner meeting to be held in the Civic Auditorium on Oct. 25, sponsored by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Three speakers for the affair who have announced their topics are:

P. S. Magruder, official of the General Petroleum Corp., which corporation already pays some 35 per cent of the taxes of Torrance, will speak on "General Petroleum Plans Ahead," with respects to Torrance.

Supervisor Raymond V. Darby will summarize the plans of Los

Angeles county for the Torrance area and surrounding territory. Mayor W. H. Tolson will speak on the city's plans for the future. Such organizations in the fraternal, civic, union labor, service, women's, religious and other fields, represented in Torrance, also have been invited to participate in the "Torrance Plans Ahead" dinner, and many already have accepted.

Each organization will have an opportunity to participate in the discussions of the evening. Torrance Rotary club will forego its meeting of that evening and attend the dinner in a body. Torrance Lions club has indicated 100 per cent attendance.

CAPT. LOUIS ZAMPERINI UNITED WITH FAMILY AFTER HARROWING WAR EXPERIENCE

Happy but obviously weary after many months of Japanese captivity and the long journey from Tokyo to Torrance, Capt. Louis Zamperini walked across the threshold of his home at 2928 Gramercy ave. Saturday at about 2 p.m. thus bringing to a close a chapter in his exciting life which only the Zamperini stamina and the will to win could survive.

He lived through an airplane crash in the South Pacific, May 27, 1943, one of two men of a full crew of the B-24 on which he was bombardier to survive. He clung to life through 47 days on an open raft, in all kinds of weather and many days without water and food.

He endured the beatings and torture of more than two years of Japanese prison captivity. Only the Zamperini who today is rated as one of the five greatest milers of all time could have endured the punishment which this war had thrust upon him.

But today he is home resting, regaining his former physical and mental stability and preparing to take his place in the world as soon as the Army Air Forces see fit to release him.

Captain Zamperini landed on Long Beach army airport Saturday afternoon at about 12:50 o'clock. With him was Chief Specialist Pete Zamperini, his brother, who had made a trip to San Francisco to accompany the captain home to Torrance.

He was met by his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Zamperini, his sisters, Mrs. Sylvia Zamperini Flammer and Miss Virginia Zamperini, Capt. R. L. Lewellen, endeared to the Zamperini family as Louis' "manager," "Pop" Guthrie, of Warner Bros., where Louis formerly was employed, Chief of Police John Stroh, City Judge Otto B. Willlet, T-4 Gordon DuMont, classmate of Louis at University of Southern California, and Frank S. Selover, city editor of the Torrance Herald.

After the family reunion and reporting to the commanding officer of the Sixth Ferrying Command, Captain Zamperini was taken to his home to open a pile of telegrams and mail from throughout the world as well as "Christmas" and other gifts held for him during his long absence from home — even through the dark days when the

TORRANCE INSURANCE BILL GOES UP 35 PERCENT DUE TO BUS DEPT. ACCIDENTS

The insurance bill of the City of Torrance has been increased 35 per cent due to accidents in the Municipal Bus department, it was revealed Tuesday night when the City Council allowed the Union Pacific Insurance Co. \$2367.55 additional premiums specifically on the buses.

With the increase, the insurance bill for the year will amount to approximately \$8500, city officials said.

There have been nine accidents in which buses were involved since July 1, it was pointed out. Several cases are in court, with the city sued for damages and the insurance company standing in back of the city.

Councilman N. H. Cucci said he did not want the additional insurance premium "tagged to the bus department," but the four other members of the council overruled him and granted the request of the insurance carrier.

Mayor W. H. Tolson said that the city faced the loss of the insurance unless the increase was paid, because insurance companies are allowed by law to cancel policies which are not profitable. He said that the insurance might be cancelled within two weeks, if the increase was not granted.

Meanwhile, the lawsuit over the sale of the bus lines to Charles F. Koors, for \$65,000, was continued to Oct. 22, from Monday, due to illness of City Attorney J. E. McCall, W. J. B. Hughes brought a taxpayers' suit, securing an alternative writ of mandate requiring the city to proceed according to Act 5203 in sale of the lines or show cause for not so proceeding. The city in its effort to show cause eliminate the original petition when its demurrer was upheld. The amended petition was to have been heard Monday.

Act 5203 requires the city in selling a "public utility" to give the people a chance to vote on the sale and then to sell to the highest bidder. The majority of the City Council, seeking sale of the lines alleges that since it was started by vote of the council it can be sold by vote, and it is not a public utility under meaning of the act. The lines were sold, the majority trio said, because there is no hope of harmonious operation, that the lines are operating on fictitious profit figures, and that they will become a burden on the taxpayers in the years to come.

The strike of the Oil Workers International Union against the arrogance of the industry in refusing to bargain is not finished. The oil workers will not strike or continue a strike in those plants that have been seized by the United States Navy. We resume the operations of struck plants on condition

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TORRANCE AIRPORT ONE OF 11 PRINCIPAL FIELDS IN COUNTY, SURVEY INDICATES

One of the eleven principal airports of Los Angeles county is located in Torrance, and as yet it does not belong to the community nor is its aviation future assured by either private or public financing.

This was revealed last week at a meeting of some 200 persons who gathered in Los Angeles to study the Los Angeles county new and revised master airport plan just completed by the County Regional Planning Commission.

Torrance is listed as a "secondary airport," along with Vulture, Reeves field at Rosevelt base, Santa Monica, North American, Glendale and Palmdale. Major air terminals are Los Angeles municipal airport, Metropolis airport, Lockheed and Long Beach municipal airports.

Thus, Torrance falls into the "fortunate few" who can boast facilities for landing any type of airplane, it was pointed out, but apparently is doing nothing about it.

When the Army Air Forces gave up the field and allowed it to be placed on the surplus property list, Western Ranch interests said they were no longer interested in the property for which they were paid \$380,000, and the city then wired Rep. Cecil King asking that its rights be protected. So far as is known, nothing further has been accomplished on the deal to acquire the 470-acre improved airport.

"Aviation has reached a point far beyond a rich boy's toy." This was the statement yesterday of Thomas Flaherty, district airport engineer of the C. A. A., at last week's meeting.

"It won't be long before a city or a community without an airport will be like a town or community without a railway," Flaherty said. "It may be that Los Angeles County, within a few years, will need 100 airports rather than 62 on the map of the master plan of airports as compiled by the planning commission."

The meeting in the Hall of Records was presided over by Frank H. Schmidt, vice-president and trust officer of the California Trust Co., and chairman of the airports subcommittee of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

Assisting Officials: He was assisted by Arthur H. (Continued on Page 4-A)

Rainfall Of .15 Inches And All In 20 Minutes

The Torrance City Fire Department reports .15 of an inch rain Oct. 6, this being the first recorded precipitation since June 4 when it rained .95 of an inch. This brings the total amount of rain fallen since the first of the year to 7.19 inches.



TORRANCE AIRPORT ON TOP LIST . . . Torrance airport, now abandoned by the Army Air Forces and placed on the RFC surplus property list, is one of 11 present airports of major or secondary importance in the county. This map prepared by the County Regional Planning Commission in its Master Air Terminal Plan shows locations of existing and proposed airports in county. Devices at left indicate existing major and secondary terminals and air parks, also proposed major and secondary ports, air parks and emergency fields.

WATER DISTRICT WILL BE PARTY TO ADJUDICATION OF GROUND SUPPLY RIGHTS

Torrance Water District No. 1 will become a party to initiating court action to adjudicate the rights to ground water in the West Basin, if the recommendation of Manager William Stanger, of the water district, is approved by the City Council.

Torrance will join Manhattan Beach, the Palos Verdes Water Co. and the California Water Service Co. in petitioning the court to adjudicate the existing rights to ground water, under Stanger's proposal.

Lowering water levels in underground supply and the intrusions of saline have caused considerable concern among water producers in the West Basin area, from Inglewood fault to the Los Angeles flood control channel at Long Beach.

A ways and means committee of the West Basin Ground-Water Conservation group made a complete study recently and reported that it found the only means of working out the problem is to adjudicate the rights to ground-water, limit it to these rights, and take advantage of present strike. Torrance now is stranded as far as public transportation service is concerned.

The instituting of San Pedro service to Harbor Hills is likely to have some effect on the fares of the Torrance lines. Torrance and Lomita merchants have derived considerable benefit as a result of operation of the Torrance buses to the Harbor Hills project.

Additional patronage can be expected Oct. 15 as the Navy opens its new Homadia-type hut housing units near Anaheim and Gaffey streets. Torrance buses pass near this project.

RESFUSE COMPLAINT . . . Complaint of garbage being thrown onto city streets has been voted to the City Council.

Ask the Professor (By H. F. Noake) . . . Dear Professor: Why do they call those fellows working in banks tellers? Not one of them has told me anything. Answer: They're just naturally cagey.

